Centre (LRC) in the Department of Biochemistry, University of Delhi.

(b) The drug liposomal amphotericin B has undergone successful limited Phase-I and Phase-II clinical trial of safety and efficacy in human beings and is presently undergoing Phase-III clinical trial of safety and efficacy in human being against visceral leishmaniasis (Kala-azar) at Patna Medical College, Patna and at Seth G.S. Medical College and KEM Hospital, Parel, Mumbai.

(c) the availability of the drug in the market will depend upon the evaluation of results of Phase-III clinical trial by Drugs Controller General (India) and Deparment of Bio-technology and the transfer of Technology for commercial manufactures of the formulation by NRDC.

Blood-Banks without Licences

995. SHRI N. THALAVAT SUNDARAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Supreme Court's directive issued last year, no Blood Bank would be allowed to function without a licence after January, 1997;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any measure to enforce this directive;

(c) the number of Blood Banks in Tamil Nadu which have been issued licences, till date; and

(d) the number of Blood Banks without licences in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, an extension for cut off date for functioning of unlicensed Blood Banks was granted till 17-5-1997. State/UTs have already taken measures to enforce this directive.

(c) and (d) Central Licence Approving Authority received 145 applications from Drugs Controller, Tamilnadu for approval. Out of these, 133 applications were approved, 7 applications rejected and 5 applications are under process.

Spread of Dengue

996. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether dengue has spread all over India;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to alert the States;

(c) whether a conference has been called to discuss this problem with State Governments; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Government is aware of the outbreaks of Dengue Fever which have occurred in certain parts of the country at different periods.

(b) An Action Plan for prevention and control of Dengue and Guidelines for preparation of contingency Plan for tackling possible outbreaks of Dengue have been prepared and circulated to all the State Governments for undertaking the following measures:

—Intensification of surveillance activities;
—vector control measures;
—strengthening of hospital services for proper management of cases;
—intensification of information, education and communication activities;
—source reduction;
—organisation of training programmes; and
—mass awareness campaign by the local bodies;

(c) The matter regarding prevention and control of Dengue has been discussed on different occasions with the State Govts. A meeting with the Health